

The Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths

Chairman: Mr John O'Hara QC

Ms Angela Crawford
Directorate of Legal Services
2 Franklin Street
BELFAST
BT2 8DQ

Your Ref: NSCB04/1
NSCW50/1
NSCS071/1

Our Ref: BMCL-0038-12

Date: 12th December 2012

Dear Ms Crawford,

RAYCHEL FERGUSON PRELIMINARY- FURTHER DOCUMENTS OF THE FORMER SPERRIN LAKELAND TRUST

Arising from the statements of witnesses from the former Sperrin Lakeland Trust, please deal with the following matters.

Dr Anderson's statement

1. In answer to question 13(c) of his statement WS-291/1, Dr. Anderson has stated that medical and nursing staff were written to and asked to provide a factual account. The Inquiry has received copies of the correspondence which was sent to the nursing staff involved but it has not received the correspondence which was issued to the medical staff. Please arrange to provide the Inquiry with the correspondence which was issued to the medical staff.

2. In answer to question 7 of WS-291/1, Dr. Anderson recalls meeting unnamed clinicians and advising them to make "comprehensive notes". It is assumed that the clinicians which he spoke to were Drs. O'Donohoe, Malik and Auterson, but this is by no means clear.

We would ask you to address this issue in the following way:

a Please seek specific instructions from each of the relevant clinicians as well as Dr. Anderson in order to determine whether his advice (to make comprehensive notes) was followed?

b. If the advice was followed, those involved should be asked to provide to the Inquiry through your office a copy of the notes which they made or to otherwise explain what has become of the notes.

Secretary: Bernie Conlon

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Dr Kelly's statement

3. In his witness statement WS-290/1, page 8, Dr. James Kelly has stated that in August 2001 the Paediatric Unit of the Erne Hospital received a copy of RBHSC Fluid guidelines. Please provide a copy of these guidelines as well as the following:

- a. Any correspondence which was issued by the Erne Hospital/SLT to the RBHSC requesting a copy of such guidelines;
- b. Any correspondence issued to the Erne Hospital/SLT by the RBHSC when the guidelines were sent to the Paediatric Unit at the Erne Hospital.

4. Elsewhere in his witness statement (in answer to question 13) Dr. Kelly refers to a discussion in relation to the RBHSC guidelines which took place at a Medical Directors Meeting in June 2001. We would ask Dr. Kelly/Erne Hospital/SLT to provide any note or record relating to this meeting.

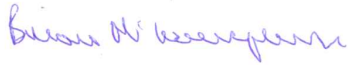
Mr Hugh Mills' statement

5. At question 1(e) of WS-293/1, Mr. Mills was asked to explain his particular responsibilities in circumstances where a child had died unexpectedly. Furthermore, he was asked to explain where those responsibilities derived from. In his answer to this question he said that his responsibilities derived from "legislation, DHSSPS, Board and Trust policies and circulars." However, he indicated that he does not have access to these documents. Please take instructions from Mr. Mills in order to identify the specific legislation, policies, circulars etc., which he is referring to. Having done so, we would ask you to provide copies of these documents to the Inquiry.

6. The document at Ref: 030-009-016 refers to an agenda for a meeting with Mr. C. Gowdy. We have asked Mr. Mills to provide a copy of this agenda, but in answer to question 25(a) of WS-293/1, he has said that he does not have access to it.

Please arrange for the Inquiry to be provided with a copy of this agenda, as well as a copy of the minutes of the meeting which took place with Mr. Gowdy on the 14 June 2000 at Trust headquarters.

Yours sincerely,



Brian McLoughlin
Assistant Solicitor to the Inquiry